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Dated: April 6, 2009 Signature: /Mark D. Russett/
Mark D. Russett, Reg. No. 41,281

Docket No.: 61646(70904)
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Shunichi Shiozawa et al.

Application No.: 10/501,259

Confirmation No.: 7532

Filed: July 9, 2004

Art Unit: 1634

For: DISEASE SUSCEPTIBILITY GENE FOR
RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS, PROTEIN
THEREOF, EVALUATION METHOD AND
EVALUATION KIT FOR EVALUATING
ONSET POSSIBILITY OF RHEUMATOID
ARTHRITIS BY USING THOSE, AND
REMEDY AND CURING MEDICINE FOR
RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

Examiner: S. C. Pohnert

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants are in receipt of the non-final Office Action mailed on December 5, 2008 (the "Office Action"), in the above-referenced patent application, and now submit this response. A request for an extension of time through and including April 6, 2009 (April 5, 2009, being a Sunday) is submitted herewith, and this paper is believed to be timely filed.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS begin at page 2 of this paper.